

Columbus Police Department



Chief Ricky Boren



Assistant Chief Gilbert Slouchick



Major Freddy Blackmon



Major Wanna Barker-Wright



Major Paul Ezell



Major Charles Kennedy



Major J. D. Hawk

2019 Annual Report

COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

A Message from Chief Richard T. Boren

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Columbus Police Department



Chief of Police
Richard T. Boren

Police Officer	December 13, 1971
Detective	October 5, 1974
Sergeant	August 5, 1985
Lieutenant	April 5, 1991
Captain	March 23, 1996
Major	November 11, 1998
Assistant Chief	November 6, 2002
Chief of Police	November 1, 2004

I am pleased to submit the Columbus Police Department's Annual Report for 2019 to the City Administration and the citizens of Columbus, Georgia. The report includes information concerning the department's organizational structure and statistical information concerning the department's accomplishments during the year.

There were 8,414 Part 1 Crimes reported in 2019. This was a 6.7% decrease from 2018 total of 9,026 Part One Crimes and a 2.6% increase over the previous five-year average of 8,198. The overall Part 1 clearance rate remained consistent with the five-year average. Though not a Uniform Crime Report Part 1 statistic, we had 21 fatalities in 2019, which was the same amount as 2018. We had a decrease of 7.59% total crashes and ended the year with 10,597 crashes investigated. In addition, the total line of duty injuries to Police Officers due to crashes and other incidents were up by more than 74%.

The Police Department responded to 253,877 calls for service during the year. This represents a .38% increase from 2018 (252,906) calls for service. In addition to responding to calls, our officers are in tune with the needs of the public and participate in numerous classes and safety programs designed to help the public. Our Traffic Division conducted 31 safety classes administered to 2,366 children and adults on bicycle and motorcycle safety. Four-hundred donated bicycle helmets were given out to kids at no cost. Columbus was again recognized as achieving a "**Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community**" status from the **League of American Bicyclists**, largely due to the community involvement of our traffic division.

The Columbus Police Department is the only police department in the United States to obtain a "Silver" status from The League of American Bicyclists.

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Community Relations is a key component within the department's Community Oriented Policing strategy. The Department is directly involved in partnerships and initiatives within the community. These partnerships include: Columbus Against Drugs, Neighborhood Watch, Partners in Education, DARE Program, Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.), Safe Kids, DUI awareness training, Citizens Law Enforcement Academy, Seniors & Lawmen Together and Project Lifesaver. "Project Lifesaver" Is a program to help locate at-risk wanderers and Alzheimer patients that wander away from their homes. The program utilizes specialized equipment and trained law enforcement officers who track bracelets attached to the individuals. We currently monitor six individuals and keep the equipment prepared if ever needed.

The department continued its community outreach with faith-based leaders through "The Columbus Police Department Pastor's Academy". This five-week training is to give the participants a better understanding of how law enforcement functions and a greater awareness of the challenges that face officers every day. It is emphasized that this experience is shared with their congregations. The Training Division conducted Active Shooter Seminars for churches, business and other concerned citizens of the community.

Intelligence-Led Policing strategies and the Records Management System (RMS) continue to define the direction for the Columbus Police Department as we use these systems to analyze records and data for use in fighting crime in our neighborhoods. The Records Management System went live in February 2016; with RMS, we can better recognize criminal activity trends and patterns. With RMS we have improved on being pro-active and deploying out resources where they are needed most.

Recruiting and retention remains the biggest challenges faced by the Columbus Police Department. Fifty – five officers were hired, however Sixty-one separated from the department leaving us Ninety-four officers short of full strength at the end of the year. Recruiting tactics using updated billboards, websites, Facebook, videos and job fairs are being utilized and we do receive a constant flow of new applicants. Unfortunately, our loss of both seasoned and junior officers continues to exceed the new hires. Our slogan is "Join the Force for Good" and our recruiters and officers are constantly seeking out qualified applicants that wish to join and become a long-term part of our department.

The Columbus Police Department has always been proactive in its approach to fighting crime in Columbus. We have collaborated with the citizens and businesses and have accomplished

Office of the Chief of Police



Assistant Chief Gil Slouchick

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results in pulling communities together to restrict the occurrence of crime in our neighborhoods and business districts. With the support of the citizens of Columbus, the Columbus Police Department will continue to strive to make the city a safe and enjoyable place to live, work and play.

Polygraph

The polygraph Unit conducts polygraph tests for the department as well as other federal, state and local agencies upon request.

During 2019, the Polygraph Unit conducted 81 tests. Of those 78 were police applicants and 2 were for criminal investigations. One test was conducted for another government agency.

Budget

The Budget Office is responsible for the planning, preparation and administration of the department's annual budget. The Budget Office oversaw expenditures of over \$26.1 million in FY20. Their other responsibilities include federal grant management, invoice administration, reimbursement claims, procurement of office supplies, and conducting internal audits.

Other Specialized Units

The Chief's Office also oversees the activities of other specialized units that are staffed on an as-needed basis (officers who have other primary assignments within the department). These include the SWAT team, Columbus Metro Narcotics Unit, Honor Guard, Police Chaplain and the Columbus-Metro Emergency Response Team (C.M.E.R.T.) that is a part of the Columbus Department of Homeland Security.

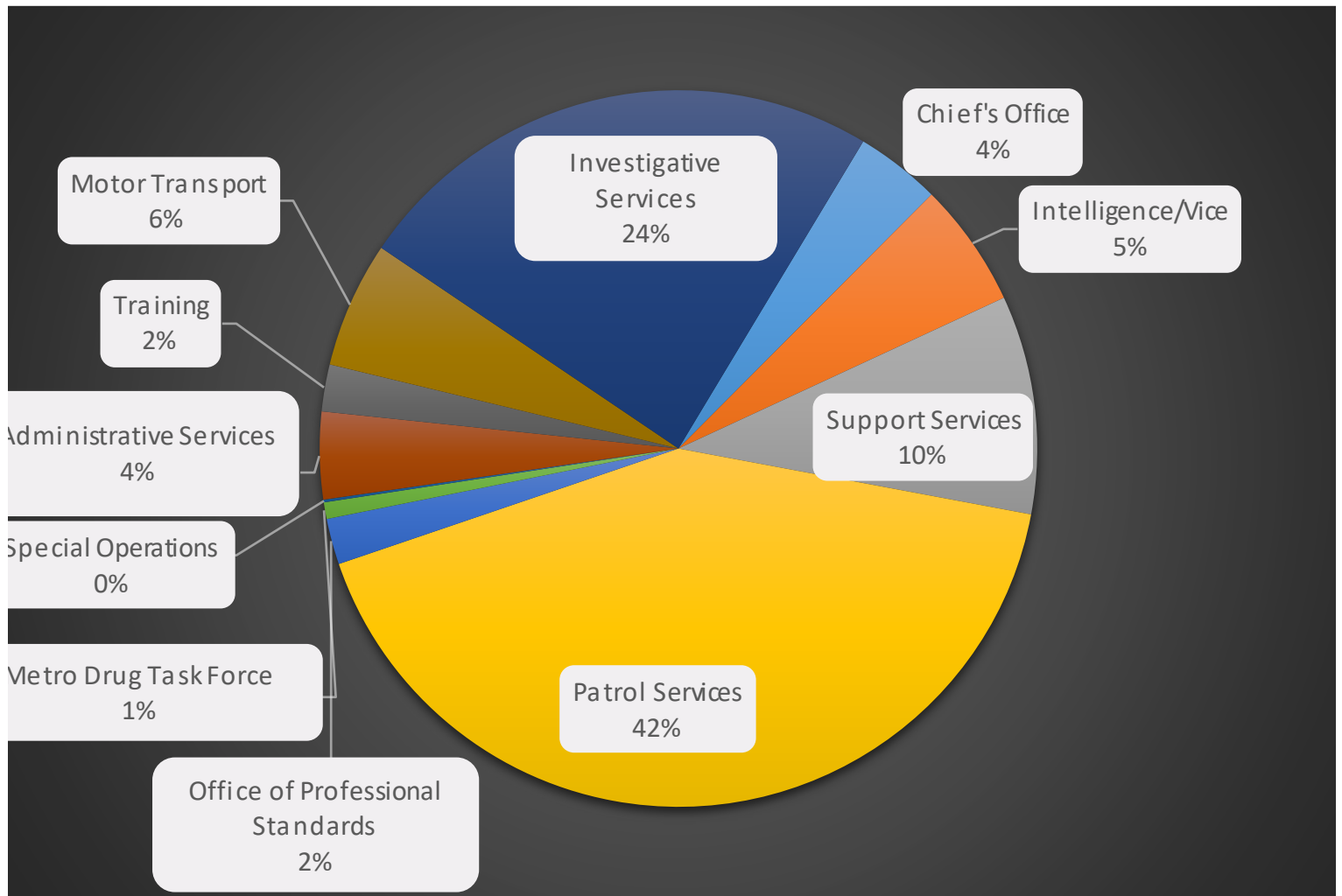


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Budget

	Actual FY'19	Actual FY'20*	Adopted FY'21
Chief's Office	1,009,900	1,026,401	1,046,706
Intelligence/Vice	1,210,249	1,450,943	1,530,309
Support Services	2,522,180	2,696,174	2,681,476
Patrol Services	11,221,496	11,050,943	11,377,437
Office of Professional Standards	552,301	542,022	562,721
Metro Drug Task Force	197,693	195,071	203,618
Special Operations	19,557	53,735	33,500
Administrative Services	1,508,320	1,058,580	1,070,654
Training	N/A	583,118	576,330
Motor Transport	1,587,409	1,580,979	1,547,540
Investigative Services	6,343,226	6,353,099	6,567,557
Total	26,172,331	26,172,331	27,197,848

*Unaudited



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Office of Professional Standards



Major Freddie Blackmon

The Office of Professional Standards is charged with the responsibility of assuring the department maintains high standards and integrity. The Office of Professional Standards conducts internal investigations and staff inspections, ensures the department complies with accreditation and certification standards, completes planning and research assignments, and maintains a criminal intelligence unit. The Office of Professional Standards is staffed with a major, lieutenant, four sergeants, three crime analysts, and an administrative secretary.

The Office of Professional Standards also maintains data and completed reports concerning complaints, uses of force, and vehicle pursuits.

Internal Affairs

The Office of Professional Standards investigates complaints and violations of orders and regulations concerning employees of the Columbus Police Department as directed by the Chief of Police. The Office of Professional Standards also investigates any discharge of a firearm by an employee.

When the Office of Professional Standards is assigned a complaint by the Chief of Police, it is responsible for conducting a thorough, impartial and accurate investigation.

The Office of Professional Standards also conducts special studies or investigations as directed by the Chief of Police. Such special studies or investigations are situations or circumstances that, by nature, require particular prudence or discretion deemed necessary by the Chief of Police.

Staff Inspections

The Office of Professional Standards conducts quarterly inspections of the Budget Office and two yearly inspections of the Evidence Rooms. The Office of Professional Standards also conducts other staff inspections or studies within the department as assigned by the Chief of Police. The results of staff inspections are reported to the Chief of Police.

Accreditation / Certification

The Columbus Police Department was initially accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in 1993 and has maintained CALEA accreditation ever since. The process of accreditation has involved yearly reporting to CALEA and periodic on-site

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assessments. During the on-site assessments, the public is invited to provide feedback regarding the department. The department has been granted re-accreditation seven times since its initial accreditation and its most recent re-accreditation was in March of 2017. CALEA currently reviews electronic files every year to ensure the agency is maintaining compliance with the standards. In 2018, the Office of Professional Standards submitted the Department's proofs of compliance. The review of those proofs indicated that the Columbus Police Department continues to maintain compliance. CALEA sets forth 460 standards for law enforcement agencies. The Department will have an on-site assessment in 2020 and be evaluated for re-accreditation in 2021. Out of the approximately 18,000 agencies in the United States, there are currently less than 700 agencies awarded law enforcement accreditation from CALEA.

The department also receives certification through the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP). The department first received certification in 1999 and has maintained certification ever since. The process involves yearly reporting to the GACP and periodic on-site assessments. The department has received five re-certifications since 1999 and its most recent re-certification was in July of 2016. Out of the approximately 630 agencies in Georgia, there are currently less than 150 agencies certified by the GACP.

For more information on the accreditation or certification process, you may contact CALEA at <http://www.calea.org/> or GACP at <https://gachiefs.com/>.

Planning and Research

The planning and research function is important for developing, updating, and analyzing the future strategies in law enforcement for the Police Department. The Planning and Research function is the source of information and the focal point for budget developments, forms control, strategic operational planning, and information management. All planning propo-

sals emanate from the Planning and Research function to the Chief of Police.

Criminal Intelligence Unit

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) of the Columbus Police Department is responsible for collecting, retaining, disseminating, and the final disposition of criminal intelligence information. The Intelligence Unit Officer-in-Charge (OIC) is the Department liaison with other law enforcement agencies for the exchange of intelligence information under the provisions specified.

The function of the CIU is to gather information from any source in a manner consistent with the law and analyze received information to provide strategic, tactical and/or operational intelligence on the existence, identities, and capabilities of criminal suspects and enterprises. It is also the function of the CIU to detect and disrupt criminal activities, to include matters of Homeland Security.

The CIU is responsible for the direction of intelligence operations, coordination of personnel, collection, evaluation, collation, analysis, and the dissemination of intelligence information collected by or forwarded to the Columbus Police Department.

In addition to intelligence, the CIU performs crime analysis. This involves analyzing data associated with all criminal activity dealt with by the department. Data from traffic, patrol, and investigative services is gathered for analysis. This data may be gathered from computer sources or from actual reports.

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Report for 2019

Investigations	6
Number of employees involved	6
Exonerated	2
Sustained	0
Not Sustained	0
Still under investigation	4
Rescinded	0
Complaints Tracked	45
Number of officers involved	48
Number of civilians involved	0
Complaints sustained	8
Not sustained	9
Exonerated	16
Unfounded	12
Policy Failure	0
Still under investigation	0
Use of Force Tracked	108
Number of officers involved	135
Justified	106
Not Justified	1
Still under investigation	1
Use of Deadly Force Tracked	1
Number of officers involved	1
Justified	1
Still under investigation	0
Vehicle Pursuits Tracked	38
Number of officers involved	62
Officers not in compliance with pursuit policy	13
Officers not in compliance with mobile recording policy	9
Researches Completed	159
Inspections Completed	6
Lawsuits Tracked	16
Policy Revisions	18

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Criminal Intelligence

<u>Bulletins disseminated</u>	<u>299</u>
<u>Homeland Security & Intelligence items Reviewed</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Parcels entered into Intelligence Database</u>	<u>11,058</u>
<u>Monthly Analysis Reports</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Crime Graphics disseminated</u>	<u>344</u>



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Bureau of Patrol Services



Major Charles Kennedy

The Bureau Of Patrol Services Consists of:

Field Operations

Uniform Patrol

Beat Patrol Units

Traffic Enforcement

Motor Squad
Hit and Run Investigations

Specialized Units

Bicycle Squad
School Crossing Guard

Personnel Summary

Majors	1
Captains	3
Lieutenants	10
Command Sergeant	2
Sergeants	34
Corporals	50
Police Officers	116
Civilians	2

The Bureau of Patrol Services provides the most direct and immediate response to requests for police services for the city of Columbus. Over the years the bureau has expanded into several specialized units that provide fast and effective responses to the needs of the community.

Uniform Patrol

This division comprises the bulk of the manpower assigned to the bureau and provides uniform patrol services to the city 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is comprised of three shifts, day, evening and morning watches, each commanded by a captain, that provide a full range of emergency and non-emergency services



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Specialized Units

This is a collection of specialized units that provide varying services to the community such as in parades, escorts, community services, details and bicycle safety classes.

Traffic Enforcement

Motor Squad

This division consists of highly trained motorcycle officers, who provide traffic enforcement and motor vehicle crash investigation services.



Hit and Run Investigations

This unit is responsible for the follow-up investigation of hit and run motor vehicle accidents.

Bicycle Patrol

These officers are specially trained to provide a quick and quiet response to requests for police service. Eight officers are assigned to this unit. They are primarily assigned to patrol the Riverwalk, walking trails and city parks, but they may also be used tactically in residential

and business areas as needed. They are particularly used when normal motor vehicle are either unusable or ineffective. The officers assigned to this unit also conduct many bicycle rodeos and other related safety campaigns in Columbus and surrounding areas.



School Crossing Guard Unit

This is a group of specially trained civilians that provide safe pedestrian access to school properties for our children. A police corporal manages this unit in a cooperative administrative arrangement between the city of Columbus and the Mus-

In Summary

Uniform patrol is often referred to as the “backbone of the department”. The professionalism and high standards of conduct displayed by our officers during their tour of duty proudly reflect the importance of this principle.

2019 Selected Activity Analysis	
Officers Contacts	387,217
Reports	71,446
Arrests	24,862
Tickets	71,414

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2019 Fatal Crash Report



The Motor Squad investigated **21** collisions in 2019 that resulted in the deaths of **21** persons. Of the **21** deaths in 2019, nine (**9**) or **43%** involved a pedestrian. Of the nine deaths, all were the fault of the pedestrian. The remaining twelve (**12**) deaths involved motor vehicles, four (**4**) involved a motorcycle. In the collisions, involving the motorcycles, all but one (**1**) of the motorcycle riders were wearing DOT approved helmets. In the (4) collisions involving the motorcycles (**1**) was the fault of the rider, (**1**) was the result of an Improper Left Turn violation, (**1**) was the result of an Improper Lane Change, and (**1**) was the result of a Stop Sign violation. .

There were twenty-one (**21**) persons killed in collisions. Eight (**8**) had the opportunity to wear restraint devices and seven (**7**) or **87.5%** of the drivers/occupants chose not to wear a restraining device at the time of the collision. Of the twenty-one (**21**) deaths, **nine (9) or 42.9% involved alcohol and/or drugs.**

The following is a breakdown of additional information concerning the **21** fatal crashes in 2019:

Day of Week (Fatal Collisions)

DAY	Collision	Fatalities from Collision	Percentages
Sunday	1	1	4.77%
Monday	1	1	4.77%
Tuesday	3	3	14.29%
Wednesday	5	5	23.80%
Thursday	4	4	19.04%
Friday	1	1	4.77%
Saturday	6	6	28.56%
Total	21	21	100%

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In 2018, Friday yielded **(5)** fatalities and this day had the most fatalities followed closely by Monday with **(4)**. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday had **(3)** each, these days combined for a total of **42.85%** of the total fatal crashes.

Times	Crashes	# Killed		Times	Crashes	# Killed
0001-0100				1201-1300	1	1
0101-0200				1301-1400		
0201-0300	1	1		1401-1500	1	1
0301-0400	1	1		1501-1600	1	1
0401-0500				1601-1700	1	1
0501-0600				1701-1800	1	1
0601-0700	1	1		1801-1900	1	1
0701-0800				1901-2000	1	1
0801-0900	2	2		2001-2100	2	2
0901-1000	2	2		2101-2200	2	2
1001-1100				2201-2300	3	3
1101-1200				2301-2400		

The times of day that the fatal collisions occurred in 2019 indicate that the most fatalities occurred between 2201-2300 hours with **(3)**. 0801-0900hrs **(2)**, 1901-2000hrs **(2)**, 2001-2100hrs **(2)**, 2101-2200hrs **(2)**. So, in 2019, **11** or **52.38%** of all fatalities occurred during those time frames. During 2019, the Motor Squad had **9** or **42.86%** of the twenty-one **(21)** fatal collisions occur during normal working hours. The remaining twelve **(12)** collisions, or **57.14%**, required five **(5)** Motor Squad Officers, a Sergeant and Lieutenant to be called in from an off-duty status to work these collisions. There were also twelve **(12)** non-fatal collisions in 2019 that were Serious in nature or thought to be potential fatalities that were investigated by the Motor Squad. There was also **(3)** collisions with a death that were ruled as Medical Related. These collisions also required five **(5)** Motor Squad Officers and a Sergeant and Lieutenant to be called in if outside normal working hours.

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Months of Occurrence (Fatal Collisions)

January	3	14.20%	July	2	9.52%
February	1	4.80%	August	1	4.80%
March	1	4.80%	September	0	0%
April	2	9.52%	October	2	9.52%
May	0	0.0%	November	7	33.3%
June	2	9.52%	December	0	0%

The most fatal collisions occurred during November with **(7)**. January had **(3)**, April, June, July, and October each followed with **(2)**. There was **(1)** fatality in each of the following months, February, March, and August. The remaining months of May, September, and December each had **(0)**.

Cause/Violation (Fatal Collisions)

Driver Lost Control/Speed	3	14.24%
Improper Lane Change	1	4.80%
Failure to Yield	4	19.06%
Pedestrian Violation	9	42.86%
Striking a Fixed Object	1	4.80%
Medical	3	14.24%

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The leading cause of fatal collisions in 2019 were Pedestrian Violations (Total 9). **Driver Losing Control/Speed** was the leading cause in 2018.

Traffic deaths in Columbus remained the same with **21** people killed in 2019 compared to twenty-one (**21**) in 2018. In 2019 the number of persons killed not wearing a restraining device was seven (**7**). This number also remained the same as 2018.

It is highly probable that these seven (**7**) fatalities could have been avoided or dramatically reduced had these individuals been wearing their restraining devices. Seat belt and Child Restraint compliance is mandatory and is strongly influenced by enforcement. Excessive speed as well as blatant traffic violations on all roadways in Columbus is a **major problem** that is only going to escalate with our ever-growing population. Continued selective enforcement, bi-monthly details and special details will have to continue with a heavy concentration in these problem areas.

In 2015 Columbus had 15 traffic fatalities

In 2016 Columbus had 27 traffic fatalities

In 2017 Columbus had 25 traffic fatalities

In 2018 Columbus had 21 traffic fatalities

In 2019 Columbus had 21 traffic fatalities

Over the past five (**5**) years, the average number of traffic fatalities in Columbus was **21.8** fatalities per year.

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Bureau Of Investigative Services



Major J. D. Hawk

The major components of the Bureau of Investigative Services are:

Robbery/Assault Division

Homicide Division

Property Crimes Division

Special Victims Division

Crime Scene Investigations Division

Special Operations Unit

Personnel Summary

Major	1
Captains	2
Lieutenants	5
Sergeants	28
Command Sergeants	0
Corporals	72
Police Officers	7
Civilians	6

The Bureau Of Investigative Services provides follow-up specialized investigative services, particularly of Part 1 Crimes as recognized by the FBI. Organizational structure and divisional responsibility is defined primarily by the type of criminal activity investigated.

Robbery/Assault Division

This unit specializes in Part 1 Crimes dealing with commercial and personal robberies, as well as personal assaults.

Fugitive Unit

The fugitive unit tracks down people that have outstanding arrest warrants originating from our department. This unit also handles interstate and intrastate prisoner extraditions.

Homicide Division

This unit deals primarily with criminal or suspicious deaths that involve long-term and /or high-profile investigations. This unit handles both recent cases and unsolved cases from previous years.

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Property Crimes Division

This division deals with property-related criminal investigations, including burglary and various types of thefts. The component units of this division are: Burglary / Theft; Financial Crimes and the Pawn Shop Detail.

Financial / White Collar Crimes Unit

This unit investigates activities involving the improper use of documents of legal tender and other criminal activities commonly referred to as "white collar" crimes.

Pawnshop Detail

This unit oversees the pawnshop businesses. Its activities include checking pawnshops for possible stolen items, maintaining a computerized database of all pawned articles and the investigation of persons involved with stolen pawned items.

Special Victims Division

The Division deals with juvenile cases, adult abuse cases and sex crimes cases involving adults and juveniles. They also investigate sexual predators.

Juvenile & Adult Services Unit

This unit investigates activities involving juveniles (persons less than 17 years of age) and adults. The unit also investigates missing person reports for both juveniles and adults.

Sex Crimes Unit

This unit specializes in rape and other sexually related criminal activity. The investigators are highly trained in dealing with sexual offenders and assisting the victims of these crimes. The Sex Crimes Unit also investigates computer crimes involving online child predators. This unit has the ability to search computer hard drives for evidence of crimes perpetrated through the use of computers.

Crime Scene Investigative Division

This unit is a highly specialized unit that requires all officers to be state certified in crime scene processing which includes crime scene documentation, processing and evidence collection. Each officer assigned to this unit must meet all qualifications to be accepted as an expert witness in judicial hearing. This unit is also responsible for the fingerprinting of all juvenile offenders.

Special Operations Unit

This unit investigates all complaints concerning narcotics, trafficking, prostitution, gambling and ABC violations. In addition, this unit consists of a tactical unit that can be deployed to handle any situation that requires an immediate law enforcement response, such as crime suppression details for burglaries and robberies. The tactical unit also assists in the suppression of narcotic crimes.

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2019 Cases Investigated by the Bureau of Investigative Services

Cases Investigated	Case Assigned
Homicide	38
Rape	59
Robbery	399
Aggravated Assault	404
Burglary	1,011
Larceny	5,641
Motor Vehicle Theft	852
Total Part One Crimes	8,404
All 2019 Cases investigated by the Investigative Bureau	4,648
<u>Identification for 2019</u>	<u>Prints Lifted</u>
	1,274

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Bureau of Support Services



Major Paul Ezell

The major components of the Bureau of Support Services are:

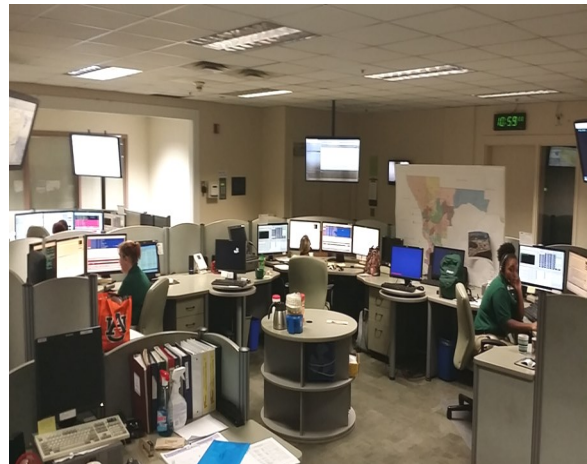
911 Center
Property and Evidence
Quartermaster Unit / Motor Transport
Unit / Evidence Section / Custodial
Services
Record Room
Desk Services
Open Records

The Bureau of Support Services, as the name implies, provides services that support the primary roles of patrol and investigative services.

Personnel Summary

Major	1
Captain	1
Lieutenants	1
Command Sergeant	1
Sergeant	1
Corporals	3
Reserve Police Officers	5
911 Dispatchers	60
Cadets	1
Civilians	24

911 Center



The 911 Center provides public safety communications and dispatching services for the police, fire and E.M.S. departments as well as other public safety agencies in the area. A highly trained and capable civilian staff of call takers and dispatchers provide efficient services using state-of-the-art communications hardware.

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Property and Evidence



Known in-house as P&E, this unit's primary function is to receive, inventory and process all evidence and found property. All property is ultimately disposed of according to the law and/or departmental policy. Disposal may be made by the destruction of the item, by forwarding it to other agencies as appropriate, by returning the item to its rightful owner or by public auction.

Quartermaster Unit



The quartermaster unit maintains a complete inventory of all building property, furniture and other capital equipment excluding automobiles. The quartermaster unit maintains a complete stock of uniforms, equipment and supplies for issuing to officers and other employees. It is also responsible for receiving, logging and disbursing all deliverable materials except non-parcel mail.

Motor Transport

The motor transport unit maintains an inventory of motor vehicles used by the department, including the individually assigned vehicles. Careful record keeping is maintained, especially in tracking of operational, maintenance and repair costs. Analysis of the financial impact of the individually assigned vehicle program reveals, as was promised when the program was approved and implemented more than twenty years ago, tremendous cost savings despite an increase in the number of vehicles maintained. This savings is a direct result of individual accountability for each vehicle and a strict and rigorous inspection procedure. The motor transport unit also oversees the installation and maintenance of the computers video and radar equipment in each of the patrol "supercars".

Under the old fleet system, where police units operated around the clock, the cars rarely lasted more than a year or two and experienced very high operational costs after a short time on the streets. In addition, the appearance of the vehicles were hard to keep up. Under the individually assigned vehicle program, police units routinely last five years or more and maintain a like new appearance and performance during their entire lifetime at a fraction of comparable operational and maintenance cost.

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Record Room



The record room maintains and processes all major report forms used by the department such as Incident, Accident, Supplement, warrants and others. Processing involves initial logging, copying, distribution and data entry and indexing of certain information. The record room provides a check-in counter for the officers and employees as well as other functions.

The record room maintains comprehensive criminal history information in an interactive cooperative relationship with other local, state and federal agencies. This includes the dynamic exchange of information and data services via the GCIC (state) and NCIC.

Desk Services



This unit provides the initial point of contact for persons visiting our department and provides counter services 10 hours a day, 5 days a week except for Holidays. The public can obtain police reports, criminal histories, several types of permits and any other information that can legally be disseminated.

Desk Services provides incident reporting services, including supplement reports and follow-up contacts. This unit also coordinates the in-house mail services and communications.

The unit sergeant is responsible for maintaining the department's photo identification card system. All employees and authorized users of the building are issued a photo identification card which allows them access to the building based on their need and approved access.

Open Records

The Georgia Open Records Act is a series of laws guaranteeing the public access to public records of government bodies. Public records are documents, videos, photographs, voice recordings and certain other information generated by government agencies in the course of their duties. Any citizen of the state can request public records that have not been exempt from disclosure.

As of Sunday, July 1, 2012, the responsibility for processing requests for records under the Georgia Open Records law was transferred from the Bureau of Professional Standards to the Bureau of Support Services.

There were 1,410 open records requests processed by Support Services during the year 2019.

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Bureau of Administrative Services



Major Wanna Barker –Wright

The major components of the Bureau of Administrative Services are:

Training

Personnel

Recruiting Office

Crime Prevention

Drug Abuse Resistance Education
(D.A.R.E.)

Partners in Education

Crime Stoppers/ TipSoft

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together
(S.A.L.T.)

The Explorer Program

Handicap Parking Enforcement

Neighborhood Watch Program

Senior Volunteer Program

Project Lifesavers Program

Gang Resistance Education and Training
(G.R.E.A.T.)

Columbus Against Drugs Inc.

National Night Out

DUI Awareness For High Schools

Security Task Force

Georgia Special Olympics

Personnel Summary

Majors	1
Captains	1
Lieutenants	1
Command Sergeant	0
Sergeants	4
Corporals	9
Police Officers	0
Civilians	6

The Bureau of Administrative Services manages several major and organizational functions as well as specialized programs that include the following units.

Training

The training division provides a variety of training, testing, and certification services for all department members. Most of this training is provided in-house, which includes in-service, recruit, field training officer, firearms training and much more. Outside training and certification services are also coordinated through this unit.

Personnel

Due to the large number of employees and special employment eligibility requirements, we maintain an in-house personnel unit that is responsible for several essential functions, including payroll management, police recruitment and pre-employment processing and record management requirements that go well beyond that of non-sworn city employees.

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Recruiting Office

The Recruiting Office is responsible for conducting all background investigations for Police Officer applicants for the department. Background investigations include physical fitness tests, home interviews, neighborhood canvass, employer and personal reference interviews, criminal, financial and driver history inquiries as well as polygraph and psychological exams. In addition to background investigations, recruiters also attend career fairs and other recruiting events in an effort to recruit a diverse group of applicants.

1. Providing accurate information about gateway drugs.
2. Teaching Students decision-making skills.
3. Showing students how to resist peer pressure.
4. Giving students ideas for alternative positive activities.

The D.A.R.E. program also provides a summer component that reinforces the core curriculum and prepares students for middle school. The students participate in a variety of activities, games, as well as supplemental lessons and other educational material.

Crime Prevention

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for education, information and various community service programs as well as presentations for the pro-active purpose of preventing and reducing opportunities for criminal behavior to all citizens.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)

The D.A.R.E. program is a primary prevention program directed at children who have yet to have their first alcohol or drug experience. It was taught during the first semester of 2019. The uniformed officers assigned to this unit are certified as D.A.R.E. instructors. These officers coordinate with a representative from the Muscogee County School District, Ft. Benning area schools and a local private school to provide a ten week curriculum in 5th grade classrooms. D.A.R.E. lessons focus on four major areas:



Partners in Education

In 1991, the Columbus Police Department adopted Forrest Road Elementary School as their partner in education. Over the years we have played an active role by participating in major activities and sharing time and talents in mutually beneficial interactions enjoyed by all.

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Crime Stoppers/ TipSoft

The Crime Stoppers Program provides citizens with an anonymous and reward earning opportunity to provide police with tips and information about suspects involved in criminal activities. The TipSoft Program is a management software program designed to communicate crime tips from citizens to police anonymously. The software program allows different services to send, receive, and reply to tips received electronically by texting, online reports, SMS or phone calls. TipSoft is maintained by Law Enforcement Agencies.

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.)

The S.A.L.T. Program is a coalition of resources and commitments between law enforcement and senior citizens. The mutually beneficial results of this cooperative effort include the senior volunteer program, senior awareness classes, the task force for senior problems, and other projects.

The Explorers Program

The Boy Scouts of America's Explorers Program allows youth, from the ages of 13-20, to learn about particular career fields. On every Monday of each month, our explorer post meets to present various aspects of the law enforcement field to these young people.

Handicap Parking Enforcement

Under this program, volunteers are trained and authorized to enforce the handicapped parking ordinance in Muscogee County. This program has proved effective in citing those who abuse handicap parking privileges.

Neighborhood Watch Program

The Columbus Police Department has over 150 Neighborhood Watch Programs. This program is one important way citizens can work together to prevent crimes in their neighborhoods. The citizens that live in the neighborhood, along with the police department, organize the program. The Crime Prevention Unit instructs the citizens on what to do if they see a suspicious persons or activity in the neighborhood. It also deals with what actions they can take to deter certain crimes. The Neighborhood Watch Program in the community enhances the effectiveness of the police department.



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Senior Volunteer Program

The Senior Volunteer Program was implemented within the department in 1992. This program is designed to take advantage of the talents of many senior citizens within the community who have retired from other careers. These citizens have been willing and are able to assist the Columbus Police Department by performing many needed tasks and functions. They perform countless hours of labor that would normally have to be performed by salaried workers.

Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Most who wander are found within a few miles from home, and search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. Recovery times for PLI clients average 30 minutes—95% less time than standard operations.

Project Lifesaver Program

The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, autism and other related conditions or disorders.



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Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.)

The G.R.E.A.T. Program is built around classroom curricula instructed by uniformed officers who are certified G.R.E.A.T. instructors. Prevention is its primary objective. The Program is intended as a deterrent against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. The G.R.E.A.T. lessons focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. G.R.E.A.T. offers a continuum of components for students and their families. The following components are offered in Muscogee County:

1. Middle School— A 13-lesson curriculum facilitated in the classroom during the school day. G.R.E.A.T.'s violence prevention/life-skills competency curriculum helps students avoid destructive behaviors and set attainable, personal goals.
2. Summer Component—Reinforces the 13 lesson cognitive, social, and self-esteem-building lessons. The students enjoy recreational activities, games, and outings, while putting to practical use the skills they learn from the G.R.E.A.T. lessons.
3. Family— Consists of six facilitator-guided, life-skills-based sessions that provide parents or adult caregivers and their children with opportunities to bond and strengthen healthy behaviors within the family unit. Ultimately, G.R.E.A.T. families seeks to strengthen communities by strengthening individual families one family at a time.



Pastor's Police Academy

The Pastor's Police Academy was conceptualized to reach out to faith-based leaders of all races and cultures in order to increase mutual understanding and resolve any community concerns. The academy was also designed for pastors to learn more about the functions of each of the Department's bureaus, duties of the members of the Command Staff, along with the training and performances standards for the officers of the Columbus Police Department.

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National Night Out

The Columbus Police Department organizes National Night Out each year on the first Tuesday in August. Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, City Employees, City Council Members, and other business/organizations line up and travel to different areas within the City of Columbus to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. This annual event provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. In 2019, ten convoy teams made 35 neighborhood/community stops.

DUI Awareness for High schools

DUI Awareness Classes were held at ten Muscogee County High Schools in the month of April. Interactive learning aids and DUI driving courses are provided by the Columbus Police Department to ensure that the youth are aware of the risk of driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. This is done in a prevention effort to encourage the youth to make safe driving choices.

Columbus Against Drugs Inc.

Columbus Against Drugs Inc. (C.A.D.) began in 1991 as the first original drug fighting group in the area. There is a collaborative work relationship between the community and law enforcement in an effort to stop and deter drugs and violence in our community. The Columbus Police Department organized camp outs in support of C.A.D.

Georgia Special Olympics

The Columbus Police Department began participating in the Georgia Special Olympics in 1983. The primary goal of this event is to raise funds

for the GA Special Olympics Athletes to have an opportunity to participate in the competition games. In 2019, we had a torch run and pistol match fundraiser that allowed the police department to donate over \$5000.00.

Security Task Force

The Columbus Police Department is a participant in the Security Task Force. Meetings are held with the Housing Authority of Columbus and law enforcement. The Housing Authority of Columbus provides information about illegal activity in the housing units within the city. The police department provides proactive, preventive, and safety information.



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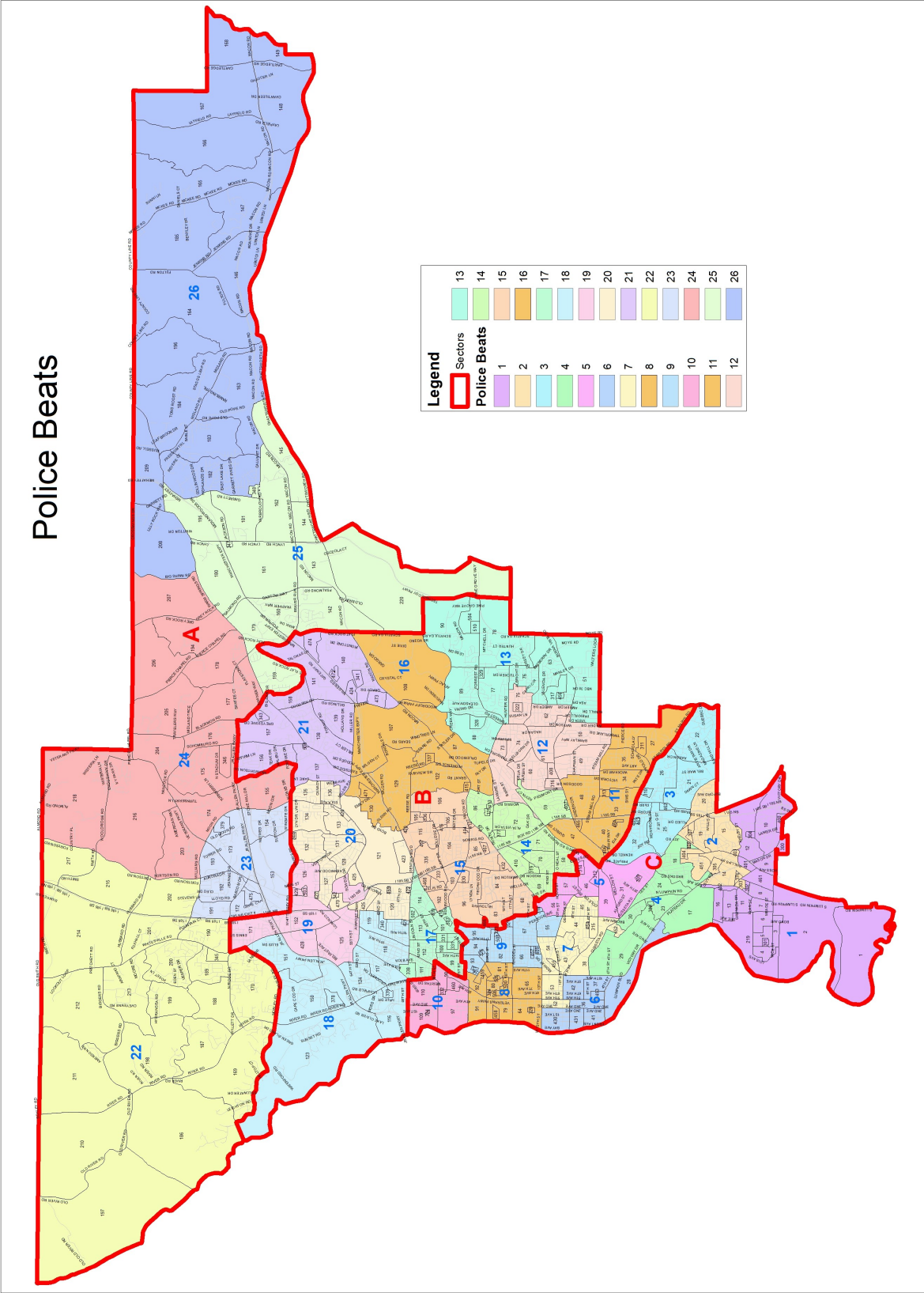
Selected Statistical Information

FBI Uniform Crime Report Part One Crimes	2018	2019	Change
Murder/Manslaughter	28	31	10.71%
Rape	63	61	-3.17%
Robbery	371	426	14.82%
Aggravated Assault	410	402	-1.95%
Burglary	1,364	1,040	-23.75%
Larceny	6,063	5,605	-7.55%
Motor Vehicle Theft	727	849	16.78%
Number of Recovered Stolen Vehicles	546	784	43.59%
Number of Persons Arrested			
Males	7,478	7,437	-0.55%
Females	3,345	3,163	-5.44%
TOTAL	10,823	10,597	-2.09%
Family Violence			
Incidents of Reported Family Violence	1,047	1,576	50.53%
Traffic Citations & Accidents			
Traffic Accidents (Public Streets)	7,997	7,688	-3.86%
Traffic Accidents (Private Property)	3,470	2,749	-20.78%
TOTAL	11,467	10,597	-7.59%
Hit & Run Accidents	2,319	2,110	-9.01%
Injuries	2,462	2,486	0.97%
Fatalities	14	14	0.00%
Traffic Citations	45,022	49,221	9.33%
Warnings	11,656	11,930	2.35%
DUI Arrest	793	1,054	32.91%
Traffic Accident Arrest	5,466	5,104	-6.62%
Juvenile Offenses			
Number of Offenses Committed	2,613	2,406	-7.92%
Number of Juvenile Offenders	1,363	1,253	-8.07%
Males	904	805	-10.95%
Females	459	448	-2.40%
Number of Repeat Offenders	605	569	-5.95%
Number of Non-Repeat Offenders	640	684	6.88%
Number of Juveniles Placed in Detention Home	212	206	-2.83%
Number of Juveniles Placed in Foster Homes	1	0	-100.00%
Line of Duty Injuries to Police Officers			
Officers Assaulted by Suspect	9	19	111.11%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	11	120.00%
Pursuing Fleeing Suspects	16	19	18.75%
Exposure to Contagious of harmful Substances	6	11	83.33%
Training Exercise	2	2	0.00%
Other Non-Categorized	32	60	87.50%
TOTAL	70	122	74.29%

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Sworn Officers	2018	2019	Change
Number of Officers Employed (Hired)	40	55	37.50%
Number of Officers Resigned	43	50	16.28%
Number of Officers Retired	1	11	1000.00%
Number of Officers Terminated	1	1	0.00%
Number of Officers Deceased	1	1	0.00%
Non-Sworn Employees			
Number of Civilians Employees (Hired)	15	25	66.67%
Number of Civilians Resigned	13	20	53.85%
Number of Civilians Retired	1	2	100.00%
Number of Civilians Terminated	0	1	100.00%
*Includes 911 Center Employed	0	1	100.00%
Absence From Duty (Days Lost)			
Illness (Sick & Family Medical Leave)	3,924	4,437	13.07%
Hazardous Duty Leave	40	86	115.00%
Suspension w/o Pay	101	174	72.28%
Military Leave	924	903	-2.27%
Absent w/o Pay	552	350	-36.59%
Other Non-categorized	428	271	-36.68%
Total	5,969	6,621	10.92%

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2019 Officers and Employees of the Month

Officers

January	Officer 1st Class Yolanda Knighten
February	Sergeant William House
March	Lieutenant Joseph Hart
April	Officer Alonso Trevizo
May	Officer Sonny Wiseman
June	Officer Matthew Fuller
July	Corporal Susan Shelton
August	Officer Orry Jeter
September	Sergeant Stefan Shelling
October	Officer Daniel Phillips
November	Officer Garret Moye
December	Corporal Carl Johnson

Employees

January	Faye Ruehle
February	Grenoda Wilder
March	Darleen Brown
April	Kristen Rosado
May	Melissa Guadron
June	Cindy Ware
July	Alice Valley
August	Mark Graydon
September	Annalisa Shelling
October	Gil Lujan
November	Cynthia Turner-Biggs
December	Starkelia Sharp

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~Employee of the Year~



Grenoda Wilder
911 Supervisor
Serving Since February 13, 1989

The Command Staff of the Columbus Police Department selected Grenoda Wilder for the **Employee of the Year for 2020**. The selection was made due to her consistent dedication to the Columbus Police Department. She possessed the professionalism, initiative, and motivation, which made her a tremendous asset to our Department.

Ms. Grenoda Wilder is assigned to the Bureau of Support Services / 911 Center. She is the supervisor in-charge of the 911 Center's training. Ms. Wilder is tasked with a multitude of jobs. Her most important one is training all the new 911 employees. She grooms them to be successful call-taker who later become dispatchers. She instills into them the essentials of what it takes to work through stressful situations and

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be the calm voice bringing help to them. When an employee is having a hard time understanding how something is done, she refuses to give up on them.

M. Wilder is an excellent employee and is always willing to do anything that is asked of her and even what is not asked. She has progressive thinking and tries to prepare the 911 Center for tomorrow. She is compassionate and always thinking of the needs of the other 911 Center employees. She does not hesitate to stay late and work pass her normal work hours to help out in the 911 Center if a crisis is going on.

There so many reasons one could cite for why Ms. Wilder is deserving of this honor. When the new 911 Center Director took over, every person spoke of Ms. Wilder's integrity, loyalty, dedication, knowledgebase and teaching ability. It is for these reasons, Ms. Wilder was nominated for the **Columbus Police Department's 2020 Employee Of The Year.**

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~Officer of the Year~



Sergeant Jacob Cook
Serving Since June 20, 2011

The Command Staff of the Columbus Police Department has selected Sergeant Jacob Cook for **Officer of the Year for 2020**. The selection was made due to his consistent dedication to the Columbus Police Department. He possessed the professionalism, initiative, and motivation, which made him a tremendous asset to our Department.

Sergeant Jacob Cook joined the Columbus Police Department on June 20, 2011. He has worked in the Bureau of Patrol Services and the Bureau of Investigative Service's Special Operations Unit. Sergeant Cook was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on October 30, 2018, and

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assigned to the Bureau of Patrol Services as a squad supervisor. He was selected as **Officer of The Year for 2020** because of his actions during the following incident.

On Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at approximately 1131 hours Sergeant Jacob Cook observed a vehicle occupied by two fugitives, Jessie Harper and Tyshaun Sylvester traveling in the Cusseta Road and Betjeman Drive area. Harper and Sylvester had active warrants for the March 18, 2020 murder of Quincy Atkins.

Cook attempted to initiate a felony traffic stop on the suspect's vehicle. Harper, the driver, evaded Cook, who was operating a marked patrol vehicle. The suspect's vehicle was later found abandoned on the railroad tracks in the Brown Avenue and Cusseta Road area. Cook observed Sylvester fleeing on foot and initiated a foot pursuit. Sylvester was able escape capture, however Cook was able to recover a stolen weapon Sylvester dropped on the ground. Harper or Sylvester were able to escape capture on that date.

On Monday, May 4, 2020 at approximately 2015 hours Sergeant Cook observed Sylvester operating a vehicle in the Fort Benning Road area. Cook informed radio dispatch his location and requested for back up officers to assist him to conduct a felony stop. Sylvester attempted to evade the presence of Cook who was operating a marked patrol vehicle. Sylvester abandoned the vehicle on Lowe Drive and ran into a wooded area behind residences.

Cook solely pursued Sylvester on foot into the wooded area. Cook observed Sylvester run and forcibly enter into a residence, #60 Muscogee Drive. Cook informed radio dispatch of Sylvester's location and back up officers responded to the scene.


An investigation revealed that Sylvester had possibly taken the home owner hostage inside the residence. Cook took responsibility and controlled the scene by securing a perimeter around the residence and neighborhood. After a brief standoff, Sylvester exited the residence and was arrested without incident. The resident of the home had been taken hostage, however he was not harmed during the incident.

For his actions, Sergeant Cook was recognized and commended for his heroic acts in the arrest of Tyshaun Sylvester, a murder suspect. Cook, not thinking about his own safety, on two different occasions, pursued murder suspects in high crime areas. He was able to arrest one of the murder suspects and recovered a stolen weapon related to the murder investigation.

Cook's integrity and bravery can be attributed to his fundamental duty as a Law Enforcement Officer to serve mankind by safeguarding lives and property. For his bravery and attention to duty, Sergeant Cook was nominated as the **Columbus Police Department's 2020 Officer of the Year!**

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IN MEMORIAM



<i>Matt Murphy</i>	December 26, 1874
<i>Richard M. Adams, William Jackson & Charlie Roberts</i>	October 14, 1896
<i>N. G. Osborn</i>	January 31, 1901
<i>William S. Elliot</i>	March 27, 1901
<i>Marion Marchant</i>	April 17, 1911
<i>Nelson Gibson</i>	September 12, 1915
<i>Charles B. Harvey & J.W. Stokes</i>	May 20, 1920
<i>William G. Pate</i>	February 5, 1921
<i>Ernest S. Evans</i>	October 25, 1935
<i>Harry C. Gibson</i>	April 6, 1943
<i>Sumpter Burns</i>	November 6, 1946
<i>Jack C. Boone</i>	February 15, 1973
<i>Robert G. Vinning</i>	April 21, 1976
<i>Billy R. Watson</i>	December 28, 1976
<i>James N. Bowers</i>	April 4, 1979
<i>Thomas M. "Spanky" Bowen</i>	March 11, 1984
<i>Clois W. "Sonny" Lamb</i>	December 12, 1989
<i>Shirley D. Winston</i>	December 31, 1989
<i>Sife Perdue</i>	January 5, 1994
<i>Charles E. Osborne, Jr.</i>	August 8, 1994
<i>Ronnie M. Bowers</i>	October 10, 2002
<i>Thomas Keith Slay</i>	July 30, 2013